

## Weekly Column for October 28, 2004

Last night there was a lunar eclipse and Boston Red Sox won the World Series. I would not be lying if I told you I was little surprised we are all still here today. But, thankfully, we are, and I don't want to sound bitter, but the Yankees will get them next year.

I just want to touch on a few separate topics this week, the first being demolished buildings. We had another unfortunate incident this week when we had to demolish a building on Stow Avenue that could have fallen at any moment. An engineer was in the building on Monday, and by the time he was done the house had already moved several inches. Then next day the building had moved again. It was clear that the structure was a complete danger to everyone around it.

The reason I bring this up is that the recent demolitions we have had to order make it look as if we are only interested in tearing things down. I would much rather build something than destroy it, and I hope that people understand the buildings we are taking down have been neglected for years, and there was no hope for them.

This week also marks the beginning of the Convenience Store law that was passed in September. Again, I understand the controversy behind this law, but it is my belief that it will help improve the safety of the neighborhoods where these stores are. In truth, the law only affects six or seven stores, not an enormous amount. The fact of the matter is, the majority of the convenience stores in the City close at a decent hour, they are not open all night. I give credit and thank the City Council for unanimously passing the law in September.

On to some good news, we have started accepting registrations for the Turkey Trot this year, which amazes me. I cannot believe that it is almost Thanksgiving. This year has flown by. And we are also accepting entries into the Second Annual Troy Photo Contest. This year's theme is "People Enjoy Troy." You can enter either one of these events by looking on the City Homepage.

That's all I have for everyone this week, don't forget to set your clock ahead on Saturday night. And Happy Halloween.

Harry J Tutunjian  
Mayor of Troy